

Official Announcement by the
G.H.Q. of the Kwangtung Army

October 4, 1931

(6th year of Showa)

The Seventh Infantry Brigade at PEITAYING commanded by Wang I-che is renowned all over the 4 North Eastern Provinces as the pick unit of all the troops under the direct command of Chang Hsueh-liang. However, on the night of September 18, they acted in violence, and no sooner had they been dealt with by our troops when they took to flight. These fleeing soldiers later gathered at places, and together with the attempt to restore their shattered strength, they grouped at various places and freely conducting atrocity, they raped women, seized money and property, and above all, murdered our Korean comrades at TATIENTZU in particular, over a hundred were killed. When we sent a force to quell them, they quickly raised a white flag and sent forth a parlementaire in surrender. Such barbarous acts are committed even by the unexcelled Seventh Brigade. It is no wonder, therefore, that the other troops of inferior qualities should become bandits when defeated, committing every possible destructive act against peace and order.

Can we say that they are troops of a civilized country,

possible is an urgent relief measure of our Army to exalt neighboring friendly relations. This is the plan to firmly establish ever-lasting peace in the Orient and this is the Imperial way which we shall never be ashamed of in putting it into practice both at home and abroad. It would be quite clear therefore, that all those justice-loving countries in the world will not be unwilling to support for the promotion of happiness of the 30 million masses.

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The Seventh Infantry Brigade at PEITAYING commanded by Wang I-che is renowned all over the 4 North Eastern Provinces as the pick unit of all the troops under the direct command of Chang Hsueh-liang. However, on the night of September 13, they acted in violence, and no sooner had they been dealt with by our troops when they took to flight. These fleeing soldiers later gathered at places, and together with the attempt to restore their shattered strength, they grouped at various places and freely conducting atrocity, they raped women, seized money and property, and above all, murdered our Korean comrades at TATIENTZU in particular, over a hundred were killed. When we sent a force to quell them, they quickly raised a white flag and sent forth a parlementaire in surrender. Such barbarous acts are committed even by the unexcelled Seventh Brigade. It is no wonder, therefore, that the other troops of inferior qualities should become bandits when defeated, committing every possible destructive act against peace and order.

Can we say that they are troops of a civilized country,

or can we say that such displays the qualifications of an independent country?

Let us question: Can we discuss international justice with the old government of the Three Eastern Provinces which has such troops under it on equal footing? Can we hold diplomatic negotiations with them?

The movement to establish a new administrative power is now taking place at various places, and the Japanese Army is being welcomed by all the common people. There is no likelihood of restoring the old ruler. Such is but an outcome of resentment against the long continued oppression of avarice of the military caste.

Our Army is keeping ~~aloof~~ from the political and diplomatic affairs, strictly performing the task of maintaining peace and order, while keeping its troops in watchful waiting.

It goes without saying that we cannot tolerate any government to be established or any plot to be made secretly within the area of MUKDEN Province where peace and order is being maintained by our Army. However, we are eagerly and anxiously hoping that a paradise of co-existence and co-prosperity be realized for the millions of people of Manchuria and Mongolia, and from the point of view of justice we believe at the same time that to promote unity of these people as soon as

possible is an urgent relief measure of our Army to exalt neighboring friendly relations. This is the plan to firmly establish ever-lasting peace in the Orient and this is the Imperial way which we shall never be ashamed of in putting it into practice both at home and abroad. It would be quite clear therefore, that all those justice-loving countries in the world will not be unwilling to support for the promotion of happiness of the 30 million masses.

Certificate of Source and Authenticity

I, KATAKURA, Chu, hereby certify that the paper hereto attached and entitled "The Official Announcement of G.H.Q. of the Kwantung Army" (Dated 4 Oct. 1931) is a true and exact copy of the announcement, which was drafted by myself, being then member of staff of the Kwantung Army, in compliance with orders of Commander HONJO of the Kwantung Army, and made public on 4 Oct. 1931 upon the Commander's approval.

Certified at Tokyo

on this 29th day of March, 1947

KATAKURA, Chu
(Signed and Sealed)

I hereby certify that the above signature and seal were affixed hereto in the presence of the Witness.

At the same place

on the same date.

Witness: BANNO, Junkichi
(Seal)

頭首ヲ推戴セントスルノ風微塵モ無シ。蓋シ積年軍閥私慾ノ横暴ニ憤激セルノ結果ニ外ナラサルナリ。

軍ハ政治外交ニ超然トシテ専ラ治安ノ維持ニ任シ兵ヲ養ヒ國權ヲ持シアリ。

固ヨリ軍ニヨリ治安ヲ維持セラレアル奉天省城內ニ政權ヲ樹立シ或ハ密ニ於處ニ策謀スルカ如キハ斷シテ之ヲ容認セス、然レトモ滿蒙在住三千万民衆ノ爲共存共榮ノ樂土ヲ速ニ實現センコトハ衷心希望シテ已マサル所ニシテ遺憾ノ上ヨリ之ヲ見ルトキハ速ニ之ヲ統一ヲ促進スルハ蓋シ我皇軍カ特種ノ能力ヲ發揮スヘキ緊急ノ救済策ナリト告シアリ。之レ東洋永遠ノ平和ヲ確立スヘキ方策ニシテ中外ニ施シテ敢ヘテ悖ラサルノ皇道タリ。正義ヲ愛スル世界萬國カ三千万民衆ノ幸福ヲ増進スル爲之ヲ支持シ協力スルニ各ナラサルハ曠カナル所ナルヘシ。

文書成立ニ關スル證明書

別紙關東京軍司令部公表昭和六年（一九三一年）十月四日附ハ當時關東京軍參謀ヲアツタ官分ガ本庄關東京軍司令官ノ命ヲ承ケテ之ヲ起案シ同司令官ノ決裁ヲ受ケテ昭和六年（一九三一年）十月四日一役ニ之ヲ公表セラレタモノノ事ヲアツタ其ノ内容ノ眞實ナルコトヲ證明ス

昭和二十二年（一九四七年）三月二十九日於東京

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